

## **Hello Latin America & Canada!**

Check out *your* website at: <http://tricare15.army.mil>

- **TRICARE For Life (TFL) is coming soon!**
- **Get Your Quarterly Enrollment Verifications Completed.**
- **New Out-of-Country Medical Request Forms/Fax Cover Sheet.**
- **Did You Know You Could Call The SOS PCM Call Center for Medical Advice 24/7?**



## **TRICARE Region 15 Spring 2001 Conference Update**

Here's a list of updates from the Conference Action Items:

#13 – Lab fees paid to a Panama Provider for services at a health fair.

#17 – ADFM reimbursement of claims via direct deposit.

#18 – External funding for TLAC Annual Conferences.

### **TRICARE Region 15 Spring 2002 Conference Planning**

Trust us, it's never too early to plan one of these things! We read the forms, we twisted the numbers, we know you didn't like the location of the hotel and that you'd like to have one conference with one large group meeting. We need your input for location, guest speakers, specific topics.

## **Pharmacy Services**

We have voiced concerns to the TMA leadership with regard to the lack of a viable mail order service for OCONUS beneficiaries. As you know, the National Mail Order Pharmacy Program (NMOP) has many constraints that limit its use overseas. We anticipate TMA looking at pharmacy services over the next few months and hope to offer other alternatives in the future.

## **Integrated Process Team for Access to OCONUS Healthcare**

The three overseas TRICARE regions, TMA, and representatives from Surgeon Generals' offices have looked at the overseas TRICARE benefit. There have been 4 areas of focus: (1) Remote health care; (2) Claims; (3) Dental care; (4) Retiree health care.

Specific recommendations to TMA leadership (on Items 1-3) are forthcoming but will undoubtedly seek to make the benefit more uniform across the Pacific, Europe, and Latin America. With regard to Item 4, TMA is in the process of sending their recommendations to Congress regarding potential expansion of the overseas TRICARE Prime benefit to beneficiaries other than active duty and their family members.

## **State Department Partnership**

We continue to have a very productive dialogue with Dr. Bayuk and DOS representatives as continued follow-up to our meeting at the DOS Conference in May. Several items were clarified and we had the opportunity to educate each other about our respective programs. Overall, our interests are the same – to provide the best care and communicate and coordinate to make access as seamless as possible. We welcome comments or suggestions on the TRICARE/DOS interface – let us know how we can improve in your community.

## **TRICARE For Life (TFL)**

I'm sure everyone has seen the acronym 'TFL' and at some point said "Oh yeah, TRICARE for Life." Here's what it means. TFL offers the TRICARE Standard benefit to retirees and family members under a few specific rules: 1) eligible in DEERS ; 2) over age 65; 3) elected Medicare Part B coverage; 3) second payer to Medicare if a TRICARE covered benefit.

If you reside in an area NOT covered by Medicare, AND, meet the above criteria, TRICARE Standard is first payer for all TRICARE covered benefits.